

**REMARKS**

Claims 1-8 and 10-17 are pending. Claim 9 has been canceled.

Claims 1-9 and 12-17 have been rejected under 35 USC §112. The Examiner contends that the term "image formation step" at the last line of claim 1 is unclear. Claim 1 has been amended by replacing this term with "primary transferring step." Removal of the 112 rejection is respectfully requested.

Instead of amending allowed claim 9 and placing it in independent form, claim 9 has been added to claim 1. Accordingly, claim 1 is now allowable. Claims 2-8 and 12-17 depend from claim 1 and are allowable for at least the same reason. Claim 9 has been canceled. Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

**CONCLUSION**

Applicants believe that the application is in condition for allowance and respectfully request that it be passed to issue.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge and fee(s) due to Squire, Sanders & Dempsey L.L.P. Deposit Account No. 07-1850.


Should the Examiner have any questions or concerns, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney at (415) 9564-0200.

Respectfully submitted,

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